THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, a number of areas/activities such as upgradation of stations at major metropolitan cities, establishment of super speciality hospitals, setting up of manufacturing units for rolling stock, infrastructure projects for port connectivity through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and several activities in catering/tourism and hospitality area have been identified for possible execution through public-private partnership route.

**Decline in employment through SSIs**

2104. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a decline in employment/jobs through Small Scale Industries in NER particularly in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of unemployed youths provided jobs in NER through Small Scale Industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Estimated employment in the registered small scale industries in the North Eastern Region (including Assam) has registered continuous growth as may be seen from the table given below:

| Name of State | Estimated employment | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 1481 | 1708 | 1920 | 1982 | 2197 |
| Assam | 64623 | 71017 | 76795 | 81551 | 88585 |
| Manipur | 19626 | 20070 | 20405 | 20735 | 21124 |
| Meghalaya | 10734 | 12039 | 13611 | 15880 | 18087 |
| Mizoram | 9061 | 9850 | 10760 | 11770 | 12722 |
| Nagaland | 4967 | 7003 | 10227 | 14046 | 20361 |
| Sikkim | 959 | 1019 | 1117 | 1221 | 1301 |
| Tripura | 11666 | 12095 | 12475 | 11547 | 11592 |
| Total | 123117 | 134801 | 147309 | 158731 | 175968 |

Employment in the unregistered SSI sector in the North East Region has also been estimated to go up during this period.